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(54) **GRADIENT NANOFIBER FILTER MEDIA**

(71) Applicant: **CUMMINS FILTRATION IP, INC.**,
Columbus, IN (US)

(72) Inventors: **William C. Haberkamp**, Cookeville,
TN (US); **Eric A. Janikowski**,
Jefferson, WI (US); **Barry Mark**
Verdegan, Stoughton, WI (US);
Christopher E. Holm, Madison, WI
(US); **Huanling Liu**, Cookeville, TN
(US); **Kyle Ellison**, Hermitage, TN
(US); **Mark T. Wieczorek**, Cookeville,
TN (US)

(73) Assignee: **CUMMINS FILTRATION IP, INC.**,
Columbus, IN (US)

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Primary Examiner — Nam X Nguyen

Assistant Examiner — Julia L. Wun

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Foley & Lardner LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Composite filter media is formed from multiple layers of
media material including a nanofiber media layer, where the
layers are laminated, bound, or otherwise composited to
each other. The composite filter media can comprise at least
one nanofiber layer comprising polymeric media material
having a geometric mean fiber diameter of about 100 nm to
1 μm , and fibers configured in a gradient such that ratio of
the geometric mean diameter of fibers at the upstream face
of the nanofiber layer to the geometric mean diameter of

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